

Germans Launch Heavy Counter Offensive On Whole Soissons-Ourcq Front

AMERICANS AND FRENCH ARE FORCED TO FALL BACK

(Continued from Page 1.)

The Germans were ejected from the village. After being re-enforced by Prussian guardsmen from the north of the village the Germans attacked again, and once more they entered Serzy.

Then American reinforcements came up. In their haste those who could not get on the foot bridges swam or forded the Ourcq. As soon as they could form their lines they fell upon the Germans, driving them back once more.

These shock tactics of attack and counter-attack continued all night long.

Bring Up Batteries.

During the morning and early afternoon the Americans got their batteries of field guns across the river, dragging the pieces across the stream with rope lines.

In the face of heavy machine gun fire the three-inch batteries were wheeled into place and opened up a fire that swept the Germans from the slopes in front of them.

Dragging their guns with them, the Americans fought their way to the summit of the heights from three to four kilometers north of the Ourcq where the artillery was again planted astride the Fismes highway.

Up there the Germans could use open sight targets against the enemy. In the meantime re-enforcements had worked their way northwest from Thionville, emplacing machine guns to guard their right flank and enfilading positions of the enemy, who fell back.

Concealed in Trees.

The Germans are camouflaging their machine guns in the foliage of trees, frequently causing much trouble to the advancing Americans. Finally a lieutenant from Providence, R. I., thought out a scheme to combat this German cunning.

German "tree emplacements" were discovered the Americans would signal to their airmen by placing strips of white cloth on the ground pointing to the particular trees in which German machine gunners were hiding. Then the aviators would fly low over the trees, pouring hot machine gun fire into the leaves and branches.

Usually the German weapons were tied in place and it was not infrequent that the bodies of dead German machine gunners could be seen hanging head downward from the straps which attached them to their guns.

30,000 GERMANS TAKEN PRISONERS

LONDON, July 30.—Correspondents in the Rheims-Soissons salient declare the Germans have lost 30,000

General Pershing's Communique.

After having changed hands four times, Serzy remains in the hands of American troops. General Pershing reports in his communique for July 29, made public by the War Department today. Fresh troops have been put into action beyond the line of the Ourcq, with the result that the fighting has become very severe, the communique states.

The text of the communique follows:

"Section A.—Beyond the line of the Ourcq heavy counter attacks made by fresh troops of the enemy have resulted in severe fighting. Serzy, taken by our troops yesterday, after having changed hands four times, remains in our possession.

"Section B.—There is nothing to report in this section."

prisoners in their recent operations and that other casualties will total 250,000.

BERLIN WORRIED OVER NEW RETREAT

PARIS, July 30.—The new German retreat in the Soissons-Rheims pocket, which became known only yesterday, caused extraordinary nervousness among the population in Berlin and throughout Germany, according to a Zurich dispatch to the Journal today.

The Cologne Gazette and the Lokal Anzeiger declare the loss of ground on the west front is "unimportant."

BRITISH RAID NETS GERMAN PRISONERS

LONDON, July 30.—British raiders entered German positions in the sectors of the Aisne valley and Merris during the night, capturing some prisoners, the war office announced today.

German artillery bombarded British positions northwest of Albert with gas shells. The war office report follows:

"A successful raid by the British in the Aisne sector during the night resulted in the capture of some prisoners. Australian patrols at midnight entered enemy positions at Merris and captured forty prisoners. The hostile artillery threw gas shells northwest of Albert and was active at points between LaBassee canal and Ypres."

LULL IN MARNE SECTOR FRENCH SAY

PARIS, July 30.—"There is nothing new to report north of the Marne," the French war office announced today.

ENEMY DESTROYED WAR MATERIALS

AMSTERDAM, July 30.—All German war materials were destroyed before the beginning of the "well-prepared German retreat near Fere-en-Tardenois and Ville-en-Tardenois," according to a dispatch from Berlin today quoting a semi-official statement.

CZECH INTRODUCES PEACE RESOLUTION IN REICHSRATH

AMSTERDAM, July 30.—Immediate peace without annexations and indemnities was demanded in a resolution offered Saturday in the Austrian lower house by Deputy Stanek, in behalf of the Czech League. Although rejected, the measure has reopened a discussion of peace terms that are opposed to the German policy.

The resolution declared that a continuation of the war is useless from the standpoint of both humanity and political utility.

It asserted that all peoples should have the right to self-determination and asked that the house demand that Austria oppose the annexationist and imperialistic policy which had gained the upper hand in Germany.

Deputy Stanek declared that the Czech people would become great and strong despite the persecutions of a narrow-minded government. "Never again will they bear a foreign yoke," he said, since they are now united and the Czech-Slovak state is now a fact which cannot be averted.

WITCH DOCTOR FIGHTING A "HEX," ACCUSED BY GIRLS

(Continued from Page 1.)

tioned by her father. She told her parents the whole story.

In the meantime, the girl testified, her sister had married Roy Schaffer, and, it was stated, had frankly told the story to her husband.

Harry Kriner, father of the girl, said he did not believe the story when it was told to him several months ago. It has developed since the hearing that the story of Keckler's alleged practices at the Heckman home had been the source of gossip for some time before his arrest.

Several persons claim to have more information regarding the case and they will be asked to testify at the trial, which is expected to develop an even more amazing story than already has been disclosed.

Keckler Busy as Trier. It has been a matter of general gossip that the Heckmans and Kriners were friends for several years and that the latter sent their daughters to the Heckman home as a neighborly act, it having been pointed out to them that Keckler, to get results, required the presence of several young girls who could "touch the hem of his garment."

Keckler is said to have made more money "trying" for the superstitious in this section than he did from his occupation as a stone mason. He had a regular schedule of prices for his work as a "witch doctor" and it proved profitable.

The "witch doctor" is married. He is almost bald, and the hair that remains on his head is unkempt. He wears a mustache and is of ordinary appearance.

He takes his imprisonment calmly and receives the jests of his fellow-prisoners in good spirit.

BOCHE DISASTER ENRAGES GERMANS

ROME, July 30.—The west front disaster caused a depression in Germany like that the Piave debacle did in Austria-Hungary, said a Berne dispatch received here today. South Germans accuse the German general staff of deliberately sacrificing the troops of the southern German states.

LUNCH ROOM INQUIRY PROPOSED IN CONGRESS

Representative Carey of Wisconsin is making war on unsanitary kitchens and other smelly spots in District restaurants and hotels and all kinds of eating places. He has introduced a resolution calling for a joint Congressional committee of five from each house to summon caterers, with their books.

The Central Labor Union, the Maryland State Federation, and the District Federation, the Waitresses' Union, and the Waiters' Union back the investigation proposal.

GIGANTIC U. S. FORCE HIGHLY PRAISED BY DUTCHMAN

AMSTERDAM, July 30.—Returning from a visit to France, a correspondent of the Handelsblad writes a long article of enthusiastic admiration for American achievements and concludes:

"From America issues a force against which no European nation can stand. It is a gigantic force which is developing calmly and scientifically."

"The German people are told that the U-boats will be able to conjure the American danger, but the German people have not seen what I have seen."

VICTIM OF BULLET DISAPPEARS WHILE OUT WITH WIFE

Where is Louis Ridgeway? This is the question asked today by his wife, Mrs. Lillian Ridgeway, twenty-three years old of Good Hope, D. C., who has asked the police to solve the mystery of the disappearance of her husband Saturday afternoon.

Ridgeway, who is thirty years old, a caretaker of the Overlook Inn property, in Good Hope, was shot in the right leg last Thursday night by George H. James, of 4300 Hayes street northeast. James and a girl were sitting in an automobile near the site of the old inn, when Ridgeway approached, carrying an ax, and ordered James off the inn property.

James, who says he feared Ridgeway intended mischief, took a revolver from under the seat of his automobile and shot Ridgeway in his right leg.

Ridgeway was taken to Casualty Hospital, and obtained his release the next morning, while James was arrested and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. In Police Court Saturday morning the charge against James was nolle prossed.

Doctors at the hospital told Ridgeway to have his leg examined every day. An injection to prevent lockjaw was to have been made in his leg Sunday at the hospital. Ridgeway has not shown up at the hospital for treatment.

Ridgeway was last seen by his wife on Ninth street near E. Saturday at 2 o'clock. He told her he was going to wait to have alterations made on a suit he had just bought. She was with her month-old baby at the time and her husband told her he would be home early that evening.

James said today that he has no idea where Ridgeway could be, and is assisting Mrs. Ridgeway to locate her husband.

Mrs. Ridgeway said: "My husband and I left the Police Court about 1 o'clock after settling the shooting case, the two men agreeing to compromise. We then went up town and he purchased a suit of clothes. As

he wanted to wear it the next day he asked to have it altered while he waited. I had been carrying my month-old baby around with me all morning and was tired out. He said to me, 'You're tired from carrying the baby all morning, so you go home and I'll come home early this evening after my suit is fixed.' I agreed to this and he left me. I have seen nor heard nothing of him since."

such a remuneration justified, the bank has agreed to enter into a revised agreement for the period of the war which would secure a reduction of \$375,000 for the year 1917-18, and a larger reduction for the current year, unless new conditions arise.

ITALIAN MISSION TO ZION. ROME, July 30.—On behalf of the Jewish residents of Italy, the government will send to Palestine a mission, composed of Attorney Angelo Levi Bianchini and Dr. Giacomo Artoni, who will accompany the American Zionists medical mission.

BANK OF ENGLAND CUTS FEES TO GOVERNMENT

LONDON, July 30.—The remuneration of the Bank of England for its services to the government which, under an agreement entered upon in 1892, amounted before the war to about \$1,000,000 yearly, increased to \$7,500,000 for the fiscal year 1918-19, according to the report of the special committee on national expenditure.

As the committee does not believe

Today—and Every Day This Week

The Rebuilding Sale of PARKER-BRIDGET FURNISHINGS for Men

At Great Reductions

SMART, snappy patterns in Men's Negligee Shirts—fresh, clean, and new. Here's a real opportunity to practice downright economy—and with unlimited assortments to choose from. Every one of them up to P-B standard and down to Rebuilding Sale price.

\$5.00 and \$6.00 Fibre Silk Shirts Reduced to..... \$3.65 3 for \$10

\$3.00 to \$4.00 Madras Shirts Reduced to..... \$2.45 3 for \$7

\$2.50 and \$3.00 Madras Shirts Reduced to..... \$1.95

\$2.00, \$3.00 and \$4.00 Straw Hats Reduced to..... \$1.45

Panamas and Leghorns \$5.00 to \$8.50 Values Reduced to..... \$3.85

Madagascar and Cloth Stitched Hats \$2.00 to \$3.00 Values Reduced to..... \$1.35

\$1.50 Foulard Scarfs Reduced to..... 95c

50c Wash Ties Reduced to..... 29c 4 for \$1

Owing to the remarkable reductions made at this time—in many instances far below the present wholesale price—it is necessary to conduct this sale on a cash basis.

Parker Bridget & Co
The Avenue at Ninth

\$50,000 DAMAGE SUIT FILED AGAINST "AGRICULTURISTS"

Fifty thousand dollars damages are claimed by the printing and publishing firm of Williams & Wilkins Company, of Baltimore, Md., in a suit filed today against the Association of Official Agriculturists of North America, with headquarters in this city, on the alleged ground that an agreement was made between both parties June 29, 1915, and October 25, 1916, whereby the printing firm was to have printed and published the official magazine of the association, but that the latter later suspended its magazine without notice.

The Baltimore firm, which is represented by Attorneys Semmes, Bowen & Semmes, also names the following residents of this city members of the association as co-defendants: C. L. Alsbach, chief of the Bureau of Chemistry; H. S. Bailey, R. W. Bacom, G. L. Bidwell, W. D. Bigelow, Fred Black, Martin Boyle, V. K. Chestnut, Aida M. Doyle, Edward C. Merrill, P. B. Dunbar, William O. Emery, F. F. Fitzgerald, H. C. Fuller, John T. Keister, Arthur Le Clerc, Henry A. Lepper, Walter E. Mathewson, S. H. Ross, Homer Runkel, A. L. Sullivan, W. C. Taber, F. P. Veitch, and H. W. Wiley.

D. C. JUSTICE NAMED ALIEN FIRM COUNSEL

A. Mitchell Palmer, alien property custodian, has named J. Harry Covington, formerly chief justice of the District Supreme Court, counsel for the Hayden Chemical Works, of Garfield, N. J.

The Hayden concern is alleged to have been owned by Chemische Fabrik von Heyden, of Radebeul, Germany, and for this reason was seized by the alien property custodian. The concern is the second largest chemical manufacturing company in the United States, and the German concern the largest in the world.

Mr. Covington is now teaching law in Georgetown University. He will take up his new duties at once.

WAGE DECISION DUE. The National War Labor Board.

will hand down an award in the carmen's wage controversy late tomorrow, officials said today.

Rebuilding Sale of PARKER-BRIDGET LOW SHOES FOR MEN

ALWAYS remarkably good values at their former prices—this Teck Footwear at this reduced figure represents one of the best buys of the season. You will do well to look these over.

Black and Tan Oxfords

Sold All Season Long at \$5 and \$6 Reduced to **\$3.85**

Owing to the remarkable reductions made at this time—in many instances far below the present wholesale price—it is necessary to conduct this sale on a cash basis.

Parker Bridget & Co
Ninth and the Avenue

Today and Every Day This Week

The Rebuilding Sale of PARKER-BRIDGET Clothes for Men

Greatly Reduced

AND that means that you'll walk all over Washington to find such a feast of values. Parker-Bridget Clothes have held the confidence of the men of Washington for more than 25 years. They are the best values obtainable at regular prices. At these reduced rebuilding sale prices they offer you clothing of unexcelled quality at prices unbeatable.

Men's Hand-Tailored Clothes
Formerly \$25, \$30, \$35
Reduced to **\$19.25**

Young Men's Tailored Clothes
Formerly \$20, \$25, \$30
Reduced to **\$13.75**

Men's Midsummer Mohairs
Formerly \$20, \$22.50, \$25
Reduced to **\$16.75**

\$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.00 Single Trousers, Reduced to **\$3.90**

\$6.00 Serge Coats, Reduced to **\$3.10**

Slight charge will be made when alterations are necessary.
Owing to the remarkable reductions made at this time—in many instances far below the present wholesale price—it is necessary to conduct this sale on a cash basis.

Parker Bridget & Co
The Avenue at Ninth

Store Hours: 8 to 6 P. M. Daily

REDUCED Our Entire Stock of Hart Schaffner & Marx Fancy Suits

Including Drie Weezen, Palm Beaches, Mohair, Silks, Blue and Black Suits

It goes without saying that it isn't right to buy more clothes than you actually need in wartime.

But if you need a Suit, you surely do need one at the savings we offer now. Particularly when these substantial savings have to do with (and only with) Hart Schaffner & Marx extra-good, all-wool Clothes.

\$25.00 and \$28.00 Suits..... **\$22.85**

\$30.00 and \$32.50 Suits..... **\$26.85**

\$35.00 and \$38.00 Suits..... **\$32.85**

\$40.00 and \$45.00 Suits..... **\$36.85**

\$50.00 and \$55.00 Suits..... **\$40.85**

No Charge for Alterations

Silk Shantung Suits \$24.85
\$30 Pure Silk Suits—of the finest grade at

Raleigh Haberdasher
Home of Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes
1109-1111 Pa. Ave.